



CHRIST CHURCH BARNSTON  ST MICHAEL'S PENSBY



PUTMAN'S PROGRESS

May the peoples praise you, O God; may all the peoples praise you. Psalm 67:3&5

'People Group' - An ethno-linguistic group with a common self-identity that is shared by the various members.

There are two main people groups that form the basis of our work here at RVA:

Third Culture Kids (TCKs)

The majority of RVA students are TCKs. RVA is home during term time, and in the vacations they return home to the locations where their families work, often with a UPG. Sometimes they'll go on a Home Assignment to their passport countries (or their parents' passport countries).

Unreached People Groups

There are tribal Africans living all over the continent who haven't heard the gospel. Many RVA families are working to establish churches, teach, preach and train pastors. Many UPGs are steeped in strong cultural and religious traditions. The work of AIM missionaries is varied!

TCKs @ RVA



This term began with a visit from Michele Phoenix, a TCK herself and an expert in understanding TCK culture and experiences. This QR code links to a presentation we received as staff helping us to understand and better support the main people group we serve. We recommend watching it as it will inform your prayers and understanding of the ministry here.

One short illustration from the training is that a person with a monocultural upbringing, who then moves to a new culture as an adult, is like the jar of beads. Since the first home culture is so well established, the person is able to separate his or her cultural norms by which country they are from and know which of their behaviours and ideas are shaped by which culture.



A third culture kid (TCK) is more like the playdough. When someone lives between two cultures as a child, the red and blue are all squished together forming a new and unique shade of purple. They are unable to distinguish between the differences. The purple culture means they are able to adapt, make relationships quickly and absorb new ideas. Although it can also lead to confusion around belonging, identity and raises a question, 'What is *'home'*'?

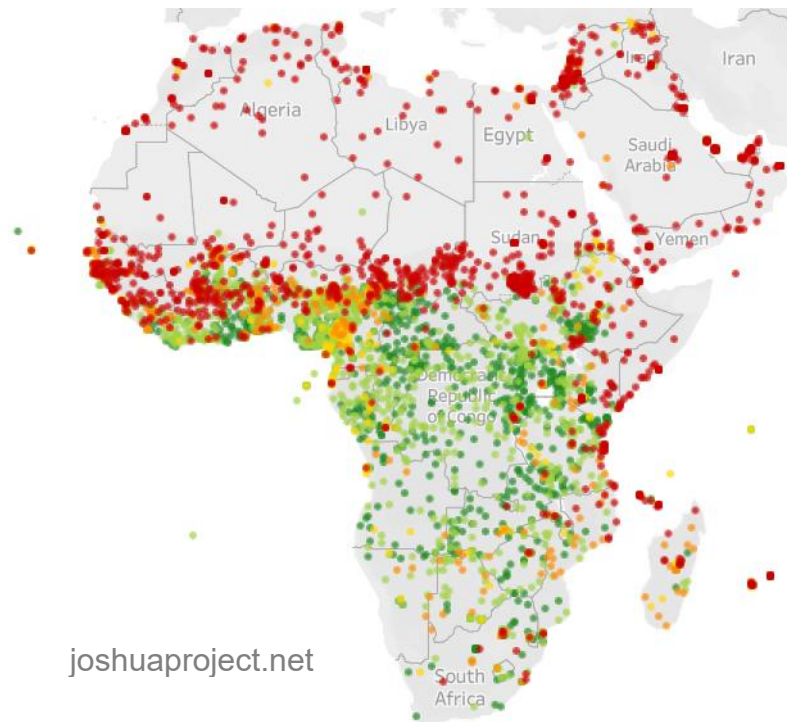


The photo on the left is of two of our dorm girls saying goodbye to a third one as they went their separate ways for the Easter break. Every vacation they travel far and wide on buses (some public) planes and trains to return to their families. Missionary kids face many challenges, including frequent hellos and goodbyes. The girl on the bus travels 20 hours across the border to Uganda with her sister. We have started a tradition to lend her one of our Maasai blankets (her favourite one) for the journey as it gets cold overnight. She may only be 14 but she trusts the Lord!

People Groups of Africa – Somali people.

Sadie's current year group, the Junior class of 2026, have been faithfully praying for this UPG since they (well those who were here) started out in kindergarten!

On 1st June we were part of a special outdoor service for juniors, their siblings and a number of their parents who had flown in for one of the events of the year at RVA, *Banquet*. We heard about Somali beliefs and culture, prayer requests from missionaries on the ground there, and prayed for the success of the gospel amongst Somalis in Somalia and dispersed across the world – many in Kenya.



- Significantly reached
- Partially reached
- Superficially reached
- Minimally reached
- Unreached

There are RVA families working with each of these categories of people. RVA is classed as a supporting ministry of AIM along with other *Africa Based Services* like the counselling team, the AIM AIR pilots and their families. All enabling families to serve in Africa.

Family

Our family continues to thrive here. Both girls are doing well academically and are each involved in lots of things outside of the classroom. The are both in the girls' rugby team, Sadie participates in music and worship, Amber in local outreach with children and class leadership. John was recently observed in the classroom and received a glowing report. Zoe continues to thrive nurturing the dorm girls and Kindergartners. We will be home in Wirral from mid July to mid August. **Please contact us if you have an opportunity for us to speak about our work and share what the Lord is doing across Africa through AIM projects, and here at RVA.**



Amber doing outreach at a local village and loving sitting down in the mud on the way back!



Sadie on Music Tour with local children



Zoe's first Kindergarten Field Trip!



John and Sadie leading worship at the Junior Sunday service on Sadie's 17th birthday.



Hippos roaming at our campsite at mid-term!



Sadie and her wood tech class donating chairs they made for victims of last year's floods.

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We are being interviewed for our church's monthly Sundays @ Seven service!
 St Michael's Church, 1 Gills Lane, CH61 1AF
Sunday July 27th 7pm
 All welcome – Come along and hear us chat about our life serving at Rift Valley Academy in Kenya!

Prayer

- We're **still** waiting for our work permits since arriving in August 2023. Please pray for these to be released to us soon. We've heard they were approved but immigration wants them redone under a different category. Then for the ongoing process of residency permits, ID numbers and such that follows.
- Zoe has 10 confirmed students for her kindergarten class next year. This will be a big step up – almost double and we are praising God that RVA have found her an assistant for Term 1 at least.
- For two of our boarding girls who will not be returning next year, pray for a smooth transition and for the Lord himself to be their rock.

We're so grateful for your ongoing continual prayer, financial and emotional support. For those that give annually or as and when please use the web link below to give online or to find the details for our sending office to give in the way that best suits you.